

From: f.lemburg [f.lemburg@inter-linc.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 4:22 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic factory farms

Dear Ms Beham: I strongly urge you to deny the use of the "organic" label to businesses that deal in factory farming. Thank you, Beverly Lemburg f.lemburg@inter-linc.net

From: Jennifer Proia [jproia@attbi.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:57 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Please - DON'T LET THE POULTRY INDUSTRY HIJACK ORGANIC STANDARDS

Dear Ms. Benham

I am writing to you in outrage at the factory farming industry members who are trying to usurp the organic label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions! This is exactly why w HAVE organic standards. Now they are trying to unethically use organic labeling/standards to make more money, while trying to bulldoze over consumer and animal wellbeing.

As the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, giant corporations are intensively lobbying the Board to allow their industrialized factories to be certified as organic! These industrial producers have even succeeded in getting one of their representatives onto the NOSB Livestock Committee. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is shocking and repulsive. Please protect us.

If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the organic label.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this alert.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Proia
Cambridge, Mass
Citizen

From: Lauren Guzak [lguzak@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 6:35 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DENY the organic label to factory farms

Dear Katherine,

An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the organic label. In the interest and service of consumers like me, please deny the organic label to factory farms. If you don't, it will become a meaningless label -- a disservice to both producers and consumers alike (and a big waste of everyone's time, including your own).

Best,
Lauren

[Lauren Guzak
[<http://www.guzak.com>
[lauren@guzak.com
[415-290-9482

From: Jessica Almy [j_almy@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:15 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic poultry standards

Dear Ms. Benham,

I am writing to urge the USDA to set standards to ensure that organic poultry is humanely raised. While "organic" denotes the lack of pesticides in the chicken feed and a lack of hormones in the meat, to many people "organic" carries an image of "happy chickens" in free-range conditions.

It would be a shame if consumers who are concerned about animal welfare were inadvertently purchasing battery-cage meat because they misunderstood the label.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,
Jessica Almy
7 Nelson St.
Plymouth, MA 02360
j_almy@hotmail.com

From: Jill Gambino [Jill.Gambino@wcom.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:17 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Comments on Livestock Committee

I am writing to ask that you DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

Sincerely,
Jill Gambino

From: j-l-b [j-l-b@mindspring.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 10:03 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic?

Dear Ms. Benham

I am writing to ask that you DENY the organic label to factory farms.

It is a shame that animals should have to live this way and I don't want to be "fooled" into thinking that the food that I buy is organically grown or kept when it really has not.

An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bisson

From: Jen McCreary [jen_mccreary@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 1:55 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Please DENY the organic label to factory farms

Dear Ms. Benham,
Factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions.

Please deny the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

As the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, giant corporations are intensively lobbying the Board to allow their industrialized factories to be certified as "organic!" These industrial producers have even succeeded in getting one of their representatives onto the NOSB Livestock Committee. The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment.

Thank you for compassionately considering my views.

Jen McCreary

122 Sloane Dr.
Glen Burnie Md 21060

From: Jo-Ann Dodds [jdbuggs@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:23 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: re organic moniker

Dear Katherine:

I am writing about the poultry industry trying to label their chickens organic. They raise their chickens in horrific conditions without any thought to how the animal's comfort or welfare. Please keep the organic denomination to those who show compassion to their charges and do not feed them dead chicken waste, antibiotics, etc.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

jo-ann dodds

toronto, canada

From: Jocasta30@aol.com%inter2 [Jocasta30@aol.com] on behalf of
Jocasta30@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 10:17 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DON???T LET THE POULTRY INDUSTRY HIJACK ORGANIC STANDARDS

DENY the organic label to factory farms.

An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. Factory farming industry members are trying to usurp the "organic" label and use it on chickens that they raise in extremely inhumane, factory farming conditions.

The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment. Please help.

Dana Muisener
6418 Snowbird Ln
Charlotte NC 28227

From: JOHN GRIGSBY [STUCKINBOTHELL@msn.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 11:38 PM

To: Benham, Katherine

Subject: Misuse of "Organic" Label on Factory-Farmed Poultry

Dear Ms. Benham,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen opposed to the "blanket" use of the "Organic" label on foods that have been immunized with artificial antibiotics and raised in so-called "factory" standards. The "Organic" label has come to represent specific standards that directly affect the health of people concerned with the quality of their food supply. Please, please do not allow the "Organic" label be misused and degenerated to mean less than what it is.

Thank you for your time and help.

Sincerely,
Nancy E. Marentette-Grigsby

From: joyce janicki [joycejanicki@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 5:42 AM

To: Benham, Katherine

Subject: Deny Organic Label to Factory Farms

Hello-

I urge you to please deny the organic label to factory farms. Industries which place so many antibiotics, hormones and other various chemicals in our environment - not to mention the cesspools created by the animal waste and the stench - should never acquire the organic label. Thanks for your time and attention to this very serious matter.

Sincerely,

From: Judith E Vido [loba2@juno.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:58 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: DENY the organic label

Dear Katherine Benham,

I am writing to request you DENY the *organic* label to factory farms.
There is nothing organic about inhumane treatment and use of antibiotics in factory farms. Sincerely,

Judith E. Vido MSW
loba2@juno.com

From: Kalpana Ramakrishna [kalpana@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:52 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: (no subject)

Dear Ms. Benham,

I seek out organic foods in large part because they generally involve production methods that are typically much more humane than typical factory farms. Please DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. This is misleading consumers at best, exposing them to hormones and pesticides (that they are trying to avoid by buying organic products at premium prices) at worst. Please prevent this type of fraud.

Sincerely,

Kalpana Ramakrishna, M.D.
6736 Harvest Glen Dr.
Dallas, TX 75248

From: kat d [bastthecatgoddess@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:13 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: factory farms and organic labeling

hello, I'm writing to express my opinion that factory farms should not be allowed to use the Organic label on their merchandise. Factory farms have deplorable conditions and do not hold with what the organic label should represent. Please do not allow this injustice to occur. Thank you for your time.

sincerely,

Katie Dolloff
University of Vermont

From: Katreena M Haley [kmhaley@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:56 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic Label On Chicken

I'm writing to oppose the organic label on chicken. My family has decided to limit our poultry intake because of the high levels of antibiotics and the unhealthy environment chickens are raised in. We are not vegans, just trying to eat healthier.

Organic chicken sounds too much like an oxymoron! We should just stop eating chicken and then not worry about the fake labels.

Katreena Haley
St. John USVI

From: Kelle Broussard [Kelle@tcdrs.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:50 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Organic Label for Chickens

Dear Ms. Benham:

Please do not allow farm factories who practice inhumane farming standards to be allowed to receive the label "organic".

I rely heavily on the term organic because I want food choices that truly are antibiotic free and come from conscious food producers.

If you allow farm factories that practice inhumane practices and use antibiotics on their animals to use the organic label, you are choosing profit over ethics. There are conscious consumers like myself who specifically rely on your organization to stop this from happening. We want to know that organic is truly organic. We all know that a lot of the farm factories are not really "organic", but the "organic" craze is another profitable market to them. Most consumers associate organic with health and assume also that the producers provide humane quarters for their animals. The farm factories who practice inhumane farming practices are relying on this ignorance. .

Please do the right thing and do not compromise the term "organic". Some of us depend on the term for health and ethical reasons.

Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

Kelle Broussard
1507 Ullrich Ave.
Austin, TX 78756

From: KIMBERLY KAHN [kimberlykahn@usa.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 4:20 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Deny the "organic" label to factory poultry farms

Dear Ms. Benham:

I am writing to urge the National Organic Standards Board Livestock Committee to deny the "organic" label to factory poultry farms. These industrial producers thrive on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems.

Awarding the "organic" label to these factory farms would be misleading. It would suggest to consumers that the factory-farmed poultry sold under the "organic" label was raised in humane conditions and without excessive antibiotics; such is the power of the word "organic."

Food labeling is intended to protect and inform the consumer; not to mislead and misinform them. Please don't let factory farms call their poultry organic!

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Regards,

Kimberly Kahn

From: Kristen Holland [kehollan@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:15 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Ms. Benham,

I am writing to you to urge you not to grant an organic label to factory farms. Industries that thrive on the overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement has no business using this label. Even McDonalds realizes that. The corporation no longer accepts meat from factory farms and has made tremendous strides in animal welfare. I hope you'll take this into consideration and say no to granting the label.

Thank you,
Kristen Holland
Dallas, Texas

From: Kristen Holland [kehollan@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:15 PM

To: Benham, Katherine

Ms. Benham,

I am writing to you to urge you not to grant an organic label to factory farms. Industries that thrive on the overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement has no business using this label. Even McDonalds realizes that. The corporation no longer accepts meat from factory farms and has made tremendous strides in animal welfare. I hope you'll take this into consideration and say no to granting the label.

Thank you,

Kristen Holland

Dallas, Texas

From: labinc [labinc@email.msn.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 2:44 PM

To: Benham, Katherine

Subject: Organic label to factory farms

Please DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

Please help defenseless animals by denying this label to these farming people! Thank you, Alice Barringer

From: la-luna@att.net%inter2 [la-luna@att.net]

Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 4:01 PM

To: Benham, Katherine

As the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) Livestock Committee meets to establish national standards for organic poultry, some corporations are intensively lobbying the Board to allow their industrialized factories to be certified as "organic." The factory farming industry's attempt at creating an illusion of humaneness and good health is outrageous and disingenuous. If allowed, it will only strengthen an industry that does immeasurable harm to animals and the environment. I am writing to ask you to DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label. Thank you.

Chandra Moira Beal

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From: LAnnD4animals@aol.com%inter2 [LAnnD4animals@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 7:52 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Say NO to factory-farmed chickens

We are very angry that factory farms are trying to pose as "organic" chicken! PLEASE DENY the organic label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the "organic" label.

Thank you.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Denison
6931 E. 11th St.
Long Beach, CA 90815

From: Lauren Goldwert [lauren@laureng.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 1:50 PM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: PLEASE DENY the "organic" label to factory farms

Dear Katherine Benham,
I am contacting the NOSB Livestock Committee to urge you to DENY the "organic" label to factory farms. An industry that thrives on the overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems should never be allowed to use organic label.
Thank you for your time.

Lauren Goldwert

From: Jennifer Fantuz [jenfantuz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 01, 2002 3:03 PM
To: Benham, Katherine

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to respectfully demand that you DENY the organic label to factory farms. For your committee to allow any factory farm to use this label is doing a public disservice and is tantamount to fraud.

The factory farming industry is anything but organic. By trying to usurp the organic label, these conglomerates are trying to perpetuate themselves as humane and environmentally conscious. THEY ARE NOT!

These companies cram thousands of animals into small areas, debeak them w/o anesthesia, feed them hormones and antibiotics . . . any group that performs any of these things is not and cannot be "organic." An industry that thrives on overuse of antibiotics and inhumane confinement systems has no business using the organic label.

I am a vegetarian. My fiancé and many I know choose organic foods (including meat, for those who eat it). The biggest reason why this is our choice(s) is because we are appalled by the methodology used by these "farms."

Please do not allow this to occur. Do not let factory farms become even more disingenuous and improperly utilize the "organic" label. Conscious consumers depend on this label to stand for something more than that.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,
Jennifer R. Fantuz
Fairfax, VA